

Italian book exposes Rome
gay priest scene **pg 2**



'Sensory Scan' possibility
for Aruba **pg 3**

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THE MORNING NEWS

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Caya G.F. Betico Croes 111 T. 588-9517 F. 5889518.

Central America unites in drugs battle

PANAMA CITY, Panama (AFP) - Central America has created a new hub in Panama to coordinate efforts to combat drug trafficking and organized crime that is threatening to turn some countries into failed states.

As Mexico has tried to clamp down, drug mafias have increasingly pushed south into Central America and countries like Guatemala and Belize have seen a surge in violence that they seem almost powerless to stop.

"What all of the countries of the Central American isthmus have to do is to join forces and coordinate our efforts," Panamanian President Ricardo Martinelli said in remarks on Monday to open the new facility.

"We have to share information in an organized manner,"

he said. "With this kind of co-operation, we'll be able to fight crime and drug trafficking."

Located at Rodman Naval Station, a former US military base, the Center of Operations for Regional Security is a joint effort by the governments of Belize, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama.

Central America is the key corridor for drug traffickers seeking access to the lucrative US market and the region has seen a dramatic rise in assassinations, money laundering and other crimes.

Officials said the new center brings under one roof resources and know-how from police and militaries across the region.

They also said the effort is

a recognition that the war against illicit drugs cannot be waged effectively by individual governments, which are routinely outgunned by well-financed crime syndicates.

"We're all in this together, and the only way to succeed is to share the technology and information that is vital in the fight against crime," Martinelli

said.

The center comes under the auspices of the Central American Integration System (SICA), an economic, cultural and political bloc grouping countries in the region.

Its director, Alfredo Callejas, stressed that operations would cover not just drug trafficking but also other branches

of organized crime such as human trafficking, the weapons trade and wider smuggling efforts.

Opened at a cost of 1.5 million dollars, it will be fitted with high-tech satellite communications, digital encryption systems and radar equipment capable of monitoring both the Pacific and Caribbean coasts.

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TUESDAY AND FRIDAY: LIVE MUSIC

Raul Castro succeeds Fidel as Communist Party chief Italian book exposes Rome gay priest scene

HAVANA, Cuba (AFP) - President Raul Castro succeeded his iconic brother Fidel Tuesday as head of Cuba's ruling Communist Party, securing the old guard's grip on the island nation despite pledges of reform.

The historic but expected transition was finalized in a central committee vote aired on state television at the closing ceremony of the Sixth Communist Party Congress, attended by an ageing Fidel Castro who hours earlier had confirmed his resignation.

The elder Castro, hero of the island's revolution which swept president-dictator Fulgencio Batista from power in 1959, had held the top job in the ruling Communist Party since its founding in 1965.

While Raul Castro, who

turns 80 in June, raised hopes during the congress that a new generation of leaders could step up as the party approved a hundreds of reform measures, the party's Central Committee, appointed Monday night, named Vice President Jose Ramon Machado, 80, as the new second secretary.

Machado had been the party's organizational chief since 1990, and while tasked with helping Castro shepherd the country's planned reforms aimed at updating the socialist model, he is seen as a hardline communist ideologue.

On Saturday, Raul said he backed term limits of 10 years for the top leadership spots, in a country he and his brother have led for more than five decades, and he has stressed the need to carry out economic reforms in a country whose depressed economy has left millions in poverty.

Yet, at the conclusion of the party congress, he took square aim at capitalism, insisting his primary directive was to keep Cuba socialist.

"In my case, I assume as the ultimate task, with conviction and honor, that the first secretary's primary mission and purpose is to defend, preserve and continue to develop socialism, and to never allow the return of capitalism."

Fidel, who handed the presidential reins to Raul in 2006, made a rare public appearance Tuesday at the closing ceremony of the congress.

The 84-year-old Fidel, surrounded by bodyguards and aides and dressed in a blue tracksuit, walked in to roars of applause by some 1,000 delegates, who were also seen holding hands, swaying and singing Cuba's national anthem.



A view of Saint Peter's Basilica at The Vatican

ROME, Italy (AFP) - A new book due out later this month claims to reveal a flourishing gay scene for priests in Rome -- a thorny issue as the Catholic Church imposes chastity on its clergy and condemns homosexuality.

Investigative journalist Carmelo Abbate's book "Sex and the Vatican: a secret journey in the reign of the chaste" will come out in Italian and French and includes anonymous testimonies from priests

and undercover reporting.

"Priests of all nationalities divide their time between Via della Conciliazione (the main road leading to St. Peter's basilica) and the party scene of Rome by night," the book's editors Piemme said in a press release.

The book also documents heterosexual relations between priests and lay women and the existence of children of priests.

Abbate has said he is not anti-clergy but aims to break

the culture of secrecy surrounding the sex life of priests.

An article he published in Panorama magazine last year created a scandal.

The diocese of Rome in response to that article said it was "determined to investigate rigorously any type of behaviour that shames the priesthood."

Asked about Abbate's new book, the Vatican declined any comment.

A spokesman for the influential Italian bishops conference said: "We can't react to all books that speak badly of the Church."

The Vatican does not deny that there are gay priests and has said there should be tougher rules against homosexuality in seminaries.

Vatican expert Marco Tosatti said that some priests "can also have homosexual tendencies but remain chaste and pious."

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Aruba Autism Foundation rejoices over 'Sensory Scan' possibility for Aruba

ORANJESTAD -- The Aruba Autism Foundation has embarked on a unique collaboration with Valerie Paradiz of Integrated Self-Advocacy (ISA) to provide persons with Autism a special American program.

What we previously admired either over the internet or on American television now has been made possible here and can be implemented on Aruba in the form of the so-called 'Sensory Scan.'

Parents following a training program at the Aruba Autism Foundation (FAA) participated in a special webinar with Mrs. Paradiz, who is herself an Asperger Syndrome patient. In the webinar she illustrated the roll that hypersensitivity or hyposensitivity have and what their processing mean for a person with Autism.

We understand that a person with Autism has difficulty with the five senses in combination with 2 other senses which for those without Autism normally do not pay attention to.

In addition to the sense of smell, sight, feeling, hearing and taste, someone with a mental disorder which affects the processing of the senses will often have a problem with the vestibular sense (which enables one to feel



their movements to know when they are sitting, walking, standing up, etc.) and the sense of self, which signals the sense of the body and its distance from objects.

Sensory Scan is designed to show parents of Autistic children and professionals how an Autistic person processes sound, sight, etc in a room or classroom at school.

Because an Autistic person has difficulty communicating what they are feeling and because their social skills seem stagnant, they may never share what in their environment may be affecting them. What they may be experiencing may be called 'Sensory Overload,' which is often perceived as negative behavior of the Autistic person. What we may see, for example, is a 'temper tantrum,' the throwing of a fit as if to have lost it completely, or sudden total inac-

tivity.

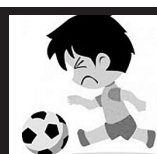
'Sensory Overload' may be what an Autistic person experiences every day, and our lack of an understanding of their world. In order to avoid extreme behavior and to understand the Autistic person's processing of his daily life's activities like eating, sitting, learning and play, it is necessary to know what will make them more comfortable.

There is a scanning process that can be applied to all types and levels of Autism. Under the guidance of ISA in the US, parents and professionals can complete the scanning process. This may be followed by counseling by ISA counselors. There is a nominal fee of \$45 for the service. A small percentage of the fee is to cover FAA cost which is received as a donation.

For more information regarding the scanning process, please consult the Aruba Autism Foundation in the Ierlandstraat 21 or by telephone 588-1179.

A special thanks is in order for ISA (Integrated Self Advocacy curriculum), Valerie Paradiz and the Autism Research Institute which is making this important and innovative

Sport's Day at Paseo Herencia



PALM BEACH -- Paseo Herencia cordially invites you to see the following games on the Big LED Screen in our plaza:

On Wednesday, April 20 at 3:30 p.m., the Copa Del Rey final between Barcelona and Real Madrid.

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Loyal Aruba visitors honored



Recently ATA rep Jonathan Boekhoudt had the great pleasure to present many loyal Aruba's visitors with their distinctive certificates. At the Costa Linda Beach Resort, Kathy and Dave Bartrum from Avon Lake, Ohio, were honored as Distinguished Visitors of Aruba. The Bartrums have been coming to Aruba for 12 consecutive years.

Also honored were Bill and Jane Greene, as Goodwill Ambassadors. Bill and Jane are from Weymouth, MA, and have been coming here for more 20 years.

Photo shows both couples together with Gloria Janga from the Costa Linda Beach Resort.

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Nissan listed among Global 100 Most Sustainable Corporations in the World



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Carlos Ghosn, CEO Nissan Motor Company



Nissan Motor Co., Ltd. was listed for the first time among the "Global 100 Most Sustainable Corporations in the World" which were announced at the World Economic Forum in Davos on January 29, 2011.

Global 100 Most Sustainable Corporations in the World is a corporate evaluation focusing on sustainability and is conducted by Corporate Knights Inc., a Canadian publisher. The survey reviewed about 3,500 major companies in various industries around the world. The 100 companies from 22 countries were evaluated based on their efforts related to the environment, society

and governance.

Making the prestigious list were 19 Japanese companies. Among them were two automakers, Nissan (81st) and Toyota (82nd).

Nissan is pleased to be named to the Global 100 Most Sustainable Corporations in the World and will continue to support CSR activities that contribute to a sustainable company.

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National Bird Count looking out for your count forms



A very successful cultural event, the National Bird Count, which was organized by the Ministry of Culture, Department of Culture, the National Arikok Park and the

Aruba Birdlife Conservation, is over and Minister of Culture Michelle Winklaar-Hooyboer is elated at how this went. Together the general public assisted in count-

ing the amount of birds flying around in our environment and especially the types of birds which frequent our yards and homes.

Zahira Zaandam of the Department of Culture remarked during a recent press conference that it was great having everyone lending in hand in this effort. To complete the process, it is of the utmost importance to have all the forms returned to the Department of Culture or at any one of the 'Hulp Bestuurskantoor' (Government Office) in your particular district.

If the forms are not returned they would not be able to have a structured an organized official count of our birds.

A large number of forms were distributed to most of our schools, and teachers were in charge of guiding students in the bird count. This bird count is one way to help conserve the cultural heritage of our fauna and flora. This activity also helped increase the knowledge of our school children regarding our birds.

Aruba Birdlife Conservation is very concerned about the recent developments such as the slow extinction of our Prikichi and Trupiaal birds which are seen very sparsely of late in our gardens.

It is for this reason, the bird count action will enable us to determine, based on statistics and official figures

what kind of approach to take. According to Greg Peterson of the Aruba Birdlife Conservation, the information gathered from the bird count action will give us a clear picture of the birds in our island and in which barrios they are most seen. This way we would know which of our birds are in danger of extinction and what we can do to prevent that. This bird count action succeeded in bringing families together and our children provided valuable feedback.

Now, the appeal is made to urge everyone to return their filled in forms to the Department of Culture or to one of the government offices in your district.



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Sci-Tech

S.Korea's LG unveils 'smart fridge'



SEOUL (AFP) — South Korea's LG Electronics Tuesday unveiled a refrigerator which suggests recipes as it forecasts a bright future in the potentially lucrative market for "smart" household appliances.

LG will roll out smart fridges, washers and other appliances in South Korea and North America by the end of this year to compete against rivals including Samsung Electronics and Whirlpool, Lee Young-Ha, president of the home appliance unit, told reporters.

The nation's second-largest consumer electronics maker after Samsung on Tuesday showcased the first smart product -- a refrigerator connected to a home Wi-Fi network and which can be controlled by smartphone.

"By the end of the year, when our full range is introduced, consumers will be able to stay in contact with their appliances at any time, enjoying greater convenience and seeing real-life, real-time improvements in energy consumption and time savings," Lee said in a statement.

The smart fridge offers three energy-saving options as well as a "food management system" which tells users what is in their fridge, where it is and when its sell-by date expires.

The information is avail-

able via smartphones or tablets, and can be accessed from a grocery store or restaurant. LG boasts the machine can even suggest healthy recipes based on what foods are currently available.

The product costs about 3.6 million won (\$3,296) and will account for about 20 to

30 percent of LG's refrigerator sales in South Korea this year, said Lee, without giving a global sales target.

Other items including ovens and camera-embedded vacuum cleaners remotely controlled by smartphones or tablet computers will be introduced later this year, he added.



The BMW Vision ConnectedDrive prototype car is displayed at the Shanghai Auto Show in Shanghai on April 19, 2011. About 2,000 car and parts makers from 20 countries are participating in the Shanghai auto show, showcasing 75 new car models, 19 of them making their world premieres. AFP PHOTO

Electric cars: night-time charging better - study

PARIS (AFP) — Charging electric cars at night eases a smog problem caused by fossil-fuel plants which provide the power for these vehicles, researchers reported on Tuesday.

Plug-in cars are viewed as a key tool in the fight for a cleaner planet as they do not emit tailpipe pollution when they run on electricity.

But they contribute indirectly to pollution, as well as global warming, if their electricity comes from a power station that runs on coal, oil or gas.

In a study published in a British journal, scientists in the United States simulated the local impact from "plug-in hybrid electric vehicles," or PHEVs, which are cars that can switch from battery power to petrol.

Their computer model was based on predictions for 2018 of emissions of nitrogen oxides, the basic ingredient for ground-level ozone, in four major cities in Texas: Dallas/Forth Worth, Houston, Austin and San Antonio.

Power generation for this grid in 2009 was provided by gas (46 percent), coal (35 percent), nuclear (13 percent)



and wind (4.5 percent).

The study compared likely pollution levels when 20 percent of mileage in the region was carried out either by PHEVs or by vehicles that were only petrol-powered.

Regardless of the scenario, ozone pollution improved when PHVs were used, because they did not emit nitrogen oxides.

As for when PHEVs should be recharged, the paper found it was smarter to plug in the vehicle at night.

Extra demand from fossil-fuel power stations at night did cause levels of nitrogen oxides to rise compared to the typically shorter recharging periods in daytime.

But much of the gas emitted at night time had dissipated by daybreak. This eased the smog problem by a small but detectable margin.

NASA awards \$270 million in spaceship contracts

WASHINGTON (AFP) — NASA on Monday announced it has awarded nearly 270 million dollars to four companies, including Boeing and SpaceX, to help their pursuit of making a spacecraft to replace the US space shuttle.

The Houston, Texas-based aviation giant Boeing received the biggest contract -- \$92.3 million -- as part of the second round of NASA commercial crew development

program, or CCDev2.

Sierra Nevada Corporation, a Colorado-based company that is at work on its DreamChaser shuttle, won the second largest sum at \$80 million.

SpaceX, the California-based company that last year completed its first successful test of an unmanned space capsule into orbit and back, won \$75 million and Blue Origin of Kent, Washington received \$22 million.

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Health & Living

Yes, men really can make it longer: study



This illustration file photo shows a Roman statue of Venus and Mars, in Rome. Some non-surgical methods for increasing the length of the male sex organ do in fact work

PARIS, France (AFP) – Some non-surgical methods for increasing the length of the male sex organ do in fact work, while others are likely to result only in soreness and disappointment, a review of medical literature has shown.

Surgical procedures, however, can be dangerous and have an "unacceptably high rate of complications," according to the study, published this week in the Journal of the British Association of Urological Surgeons.

"An increasing number of patients seek urological advice for the so-called 'short penis'," the researchers reported.

This is true despite the fact that "penile length is normal in most of these men, who tend to overestimate normal phallic dimension."

A male member -- measured on the dorsal, or upper, side -- can be considered normal in length if it is at least four centimetres (1.6 inches)

when limp, and 7.5 centimetres (three inches) when rigid, noted several of the studies evaluated.

Some allowances, they added, must be made for a man's height and his body-mass index (BMI), which measures deviation from optimal levels of body fat.

To determine the efficacy and safety of both surgical and non-surgical techniques for so-called "male enhancement," Marco Orderda and Paolo Gontero of the University of Turin in Italy canvassed scientific literature.

They found 10 relevant studies. Half reported on surgical techniques, performed on 121 men.

Among the non-invasive methods, tested on 109 subjects, so-called penile extenders that stretch the phallus through traction were shown to be most effective.

One study reported an average increase of 1.8 centimetres (0.7 inches), while

another measured an extra 2.3 centimetres (0.9 inches) in a flaccid state, and 1.7 centimetres (0.67 inches) when erect.

But the regimen for achieving these gains was arduous: six hours of daily traction over four months in the first case, and four hours every day over six months in the second.

Another device, known as a "penis pump," uses a manual or motorised pump to create a vacuum inside a hard cylinder sheath, stretching the phallus.

Six months of treatment, however, "was not found to be effective for penile elongation, although is provided some sort of psychological satisfaction for some men," the researchers said.

So-called peno-scrotal rings -- expandable or rigid bands that fit around the base of the scrotum and penis -- "might help to augment penile size and maintain erections in men suffering from anxiety", they reported, but only two cases were evaluated.

Advertisements claiming that another popular technique -- so-called "penile lengthening exercises" -- can add centimetres or inches to one's manhood are unfounded, say Orderda and Gontero.

Even the methods that did show some increase in length did not result in a gain in thickness, they noted.

But nor was their shrinkage.

"It is interesting that no girth decrease was reported with traction therapy, as one would have instinctively thought," the researchers said.

Health Tip:

Some Foods and Drinks That Trigger Heartburn

-- If you're prone to the painful burn of heartburn, don't just pop an antacid -- watch what you eat to avoid getting heartburn in the first place.

The American Gastroenterological Association lists these foods and drinks to avoid, as they may trigger heartburn:

- *Alcoholic beverages, beverages with carbonation and all coffee.
- *Mustard and ketchup, as well as tomato sauces.
- *Acidic substances such as vinegar, citrus juices and citrus fruits.
- *Foods with chocolate or peppermint.
- *Foods that are high in fat or fried.



Easter Brunch

Sunday, April 24th 2011
11:00 am – 3:00 pm

BUFFET

- * Seasonal Fruit Salad
- * Classic Caesar and chopped Salad with assorted dressings and condiments.
- * Authentic Peanut soup with chicken flakes.
- * Mini Bagels with Smoked Salmon, herbed cream cheese and condiments.
- * Chicken and Mushroom Cannelloni in Saffron sauce.
- * Atlantic barbeque Salmon on bed of fresh Spinach and vegetables.
- * Roasted Vegetable and Mushroom Lasagna.
- * Golden roasted herbed Potatoes and Caribbean fried rice.

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EASTER SPECIAL WEEK

DATE	DAY	ACTIVITY	TIME
21 APRIL	THURSDAY	Maundy Holy Thursday's 3x Point on Slots all day long	10AM - 4AM
22 APRIL	FRIDAY	Good Friday's Blackjack Tournament Cool Prize \$1000 (Insc\$15-Rebuy \$10)	7:30PM
23 APRIL	SATURDAY	Live Band Music / first 100 guests receive \$10 to play on slots	9PM
24 APRIL	SUNDAY	COOL EASTER Back to Back Slot Tournament/Egg Hunting \$1000 in Prizes (\$10 inscription)	6:30 PM
25 APRIL	MONDAY	Cool Easter back to back Slot Tournament \$1000 in Cool Prizes	6:30PM
1 MAY	SUNDAY	BIG BLACKJACK TOURNAMENT \$2500 Cool PRIZES	7PM

3X POINTS ALL EASTER WEEK ON SLOTS!!! (10am-4am)

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Lady Luck smiles at Susan Miller at Cool Casino



At the eve of the Easter Week Susan Miller, visiting Cool Casino, Riu Palace, won a whopping \$5,999.35, jackpot, playing the Jackpot Deluxe machine, in the 1c denomination, says Deyanira Zuniga, Marketing Supervisor. The casino is promoting a slew of fun activities to celebrate the upcoming holiday, beginning with Holy Thursday, by granting 3X points on slots from April 21st till April 30th.

On Good Friday, April 22nd, the casino is organizing a Blackjack Tournament featuring a cool prize of \$1,000. The tournament starts at 7:30 pm, and inscription is just \$15, and \$10 for the re-buy.

On Saturday night, April 23rd, Casin Giel's popular band will provide the musical entertainment in the casino and the first 100 guests will receive \$10 in slot credit. Cool Casino's Easter Slot Tournament, starting at 6:30pm will feature a fun Egg Hunt on slots for \$1,000 in prizes, inscription \$10.

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Souvenir International Art exhibition follows the Souvenir Festival



The center of Avant-garde art on Aruba, Ateliers '89, hosted a most unique and all-encompassing event to showcase the latest collection produced by their most current workshops. It is a combined effort of two different projects by 4 visiting instructors, Tomas Adolfs, Tarja Szaraniec, Orpheo de Jong and Monica Tormell. According to Ateliers '89 founder and director, Elvis Lopez, the Souvenir International exhibition should be properly interpreted "as a concept by each artist, with their different ways of expressing themselves

through drawing, photography, installation, sculpture and film. The unique and individual fashion in which each of these works was produced makes this show very interesting and well worth a visit."

Student work on display includes fledgling and veteran artists Suzanne van Spall, Vera Croes, David Winklaar, Eefje van Straten, Wilfred Jansen, Anjo Rotterveel, Adolfo Fernandez-Villasmil, Priscilla Lacle, Janine Flanegin, Julienne Paskel, Carina Wever, Davidson Tromp, Orlando Anastasia, Maureen Woei, Fer-

nelli Romero, Weng Mee Tang, Nuris Lampe, Abigail Vrolijk, Nicole Willems and Fecundo Franken.

Along with the results of the workshops there are pieces by locally and internationally recognized artists: Ciro Abath, Ryan Oduber, Osaira Muyale, Tirzo Martha, Kalle Mattsson, Staffan Bjork, Magali Reus, Mirjam Sluis, Jannemieke Oostra, Erwin van Amstel, Marthe Willemsen, Sarah Engelhard, Lucia Luptakova, Telka van Dodewaard and Elvis, as well as works by the four visiting instructors, thus



offering a most diverse and thought-provoking exposition.

Ateliers '89 expresses, at this time, their heartfelt gratitude to all that participated in the opening festival, dedicating their time and talent towards insuring it was an exciting and most memorable event.

Souvenir International is on display during Ateliers '89 opening hours, daily from 11 AM to 5 PM and by appointment. School tours to educate youth in art and culture are highly recommended and can easily be arranged. Please call for appointment Tel; 588-5776 or mobile; 565-4613. Ateliers '89 is located at Dominicanessenstr. 34 Oranjestad.



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CALVIN and HOBBS



CROSSWORD



CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1. Powder ingredient
5. Lifesaving skill (abbr.)
8. Disorganized jumble
12. On a voyage
13. "...man ___ mouse?" (2 wds.)
14. Takes a meal
15. Tiny bell sound
16. Tennis hit
17. Level
18. "Farewell, Fifi!"
20. Cake maker
22. Common street name
23. Intense anger
24. Securing a ship
28. Make a mistake disappear
32. Moving vehicle
33. Sleuth Spade
35. Cane liquor
36. Trick
39. Shelters for cars
42. Clock numeral
44. Track circuit
45. Religious denominations
47. Bother
50. Post-it message
51. Little white
53. Give over
55. Kite part
56. Hide ___ seek

DOWN

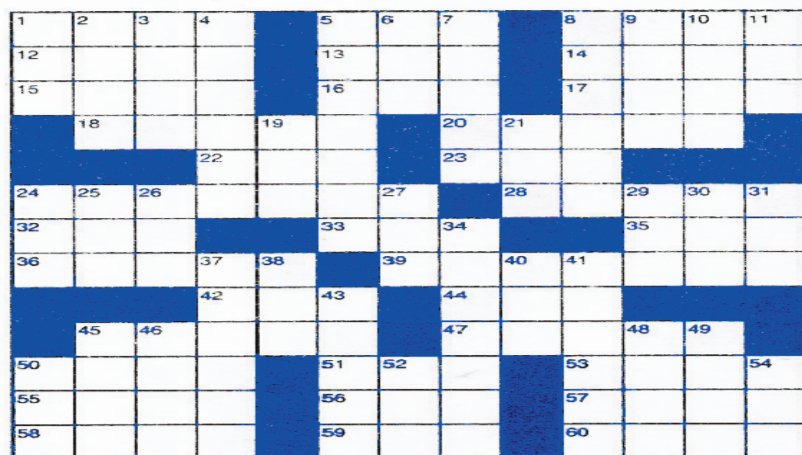
1. Small bit
2. Vietnam's continent
3. ___-Lease Act
4. Craftier
5. Pillars
6. Tennis expert
7. Synagogue head
8. Less bold
9. Roof projection
10. English money (abbr.)
11. Social

Security no.

19. Quarterback Manning
21. Exist in the present
24. Best on a team (abbr.)
25. Rowing implement
26. Soap ___ rope (2 wds.)
27. Choke
29. Evita's country (abbr.)
30. "A Boy Named ___"
31. Dorothy's aunt et al.
34. Fountain drinks
37. Actress Kidman
38. Craft shop purchase

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SOLUTION

4	9	6	8	2	1	7	5	3
8	7	1	5	6	9	2	4	3
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6	2	7	4	8	5	9	1	3
1	6	9	2	7	4	8	5	3
8	8	2	9	1	5	4	6	7
7	4	5	8	6	1	2	9	3

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9. A number is Never repeated in a row or column. In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9



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EU plans to hammer oil giants for coastal pollution: source

BRUSSELS, (AFP) - EU energy commissioner Guenther Oettinger is preparing legislation to force oil-drilling companies to pay for pollution caused up to 200 nautical miles off European coastlines, a source said.

On the first anniversary of the Gulf of Mexico Deepwater Horizon disaster off the United States, Germany's Oettinger will present his proposed bill in July, a source close to his offices told AFP. The move comes after he was forced to abandon in October a bid to impose a moratorium on all deepwater drilling in European Union waters, after falling foul of Scottish licensing and planning laws under pressure from the North Sea oil industry.

The current EU 'polluter pays' principle only applies to spills within a radius of 12 nautical miles.

The April 20, 2010 blast killed 11 people and sent some 4.9 million barrels of oil gushing into the Gulf over a three-month period, wreaking havoc on the region's environment and economy. It took BP fully 85 days to stem the flow from its leased rig.

Europe's worst oil disaster was the 1988 destruction in a fire of the Piper Alpha rig off Scotland in July 1988, which killed 167 men. The rig was later judged to have been ill-maintained and overcrowded.

Of 1,000 platforms in the EU, 486 are in waters off Scotland and the northeast of England, 181 in the Netherlands, 123 in Italy and 61 in Denmark with a handful each in Bulgaria, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Poland, Romania and Spain.

Euro higher against dollar

LONDON, (AFP) - The European single currency rose against the dollar Tuesday after data showed increasing inflation pressures across the eurozone as the economy continues to make headway.

Dealers said the markets were still coming to terms with Monday's US debt outlook downgrade by Standard & Poor's, its first ever such move on the United States, and accompanied by a warning of a ratings cut by 2013 if Washington proves unable to stabilise the public finances.

They said that while the eurozone has its debt problems, the S&P action showed that it was not alone and that all Western countries need to take a serious look at their finances.

The US is "not a net lender like Japan who can draw on a huge pool of domestic savings to finance her government's yawning fiscal deficit," it said.

The euro rose to \$1.4307 in late London trade Tuesday from \$1.4236 in New York late on Monday while the dollar fell to 82.43 yen from 82.66 yen.

Gold meanwhile hit fresh record highs just short of \$1,500 an ounce as investors opted for its traditional safehaven attributes.

New York oil rebounds on weaker dollar

NEW YORK, (AFP) - Oil prices rallied Tuesday in New York, rebounding from the previous day's heavy losses as a weaker dollar boosted demand for dollar-priced commodities.

New York's main contract, light sweet crude for delivery in May, surged \$1.03 to finish at \$108.15 a barrel.

By contrast, London's Brent North Sea crude for June delivery shed 28 cents to settle at \$121.33.

The benchmark WTI futures contract had fallen more than \$2.50 a barrel Monday after ratings agency Standard & Poor's cut its US sovereign debt outlook to "negative," warning the world's largest oil-consum-

ing nation could lose its top triple-A rating.

After starting the New York session in the red, the market saw "a turnaround in sentiment," with equities rallying and the dollar weakening, said Matt Smith at Summit Energy.

A weaker US currency makes dollar-priced crude oil more attractive to buyers using stronger currencies.

Adding to supply concerns spurred by unrest in the Arab world was deadly rioting in Nigeria following the election of acting president Goodluck Jonathan as president of the biggest oil producer in Africa.

Jonathan, the first president from the southern oil-

producing Niger Delta region, was declared winner late Monday of a landmark vote that exposed regional tensions and led to the rioting.

The Nigerian turmoil heightens supply worries concerning Libya, where an uprising against leader Moamer Kadhafi has slowed oil exports to a trickle.

Nigeria's oil is "a suitable substitute for Libyan oil," Commerzbank analysts said in a client note.

"If production losses occurred in Nigeria as well, the result would be a shortage of high-quality oil, which would benefit Brent in particular."

Job hungry Americans flock to McJobs



NEW YORK (AFP) - Thousands of job-hungry applicants sank their teeth into a McDonald's mass hiring event Tuesday, with the fast-food giant attempting to sign up 50,000 new employees across America in a single day.

The home of the Big Mac turned itself into Big McJob as 14,000 US outlets laid out the welcome mat, each looking to fill on average three to four positions.

For job seekers in a still shaky, post-recession economy, the offer was a rare glimmer of hope.

New Yorker Thomas Hill, 24, raced to make it to as many interviews as possible before the day's end. The New York area counts 620 McDonald's

and by mid-morning Hill and a friend had already interviewed at five.

"I'm open to any position. I'd do anything. I just need the finances to get myself steady," he said after interviewing at a midtown Manhattan outlet.

Wearing pointed black leather shoes, an over-sized tie, and a velvety jacket embroidered with sequins, Hill said: "We got up early and we got dressed nicely."

Bosses are keen to dispel the common perception of McDonald's jobs as low-wage and low-prospect.

Applicants are given leaflets promising "fun in a fast-paced environment," a chance to "feel good about yourself," and "learn as you

earn."

"We love our McJobs and are very proud," said Elaine Diekmann, owner of a Manhattan franchise.

A dyed-in-the-wool McDonald's enthusiast, she's worked for the company for 37 years, starting at entry level and working her way up, along with her McDonald's veteran husband, to joint-owner.

"McDonald's is anything you want it to be. It can be part-time, short-term, pay-for-college type thing, or if they have the interest and ability to go through management development they can do anything," she said.

YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer

A	T	A	A	D	M	S	W	H	O
N	H	L	N	O	T	E	E	E	L
A	A	A	D	O	V	E	A	L	E
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A	M	Y	O	N	L	Y	S	T	Y



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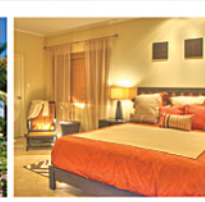
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Gold Coast Aruba: This is the time to invest

Managers of Gold Coast Aruba, the island's newest and most innovative gated community, report that sales are picking up nicely as the global economy begins to recover and those with a bit of disposal income are looking to invest in a sure thing. Gold Coast Directing Manager Fito Croes has noticed a surprising percentage of owners are barely using the villas or town homes they purchase, but taking advantage of Gold Coast's rental services to turn their investment into ready income.

"The greater portion of home owners are using their 'home away from home' in Aruba to escape the winter months, or spend holidays with the family on the island," he remarked, "but I am gratified by how many are buying because they felt secure with real estate investment on Aruba. They really study the history and economy of the island and are impressed with the political stability and continually increasing value of prime locations. Gold Coast is in the heart of Malmok, considered Aruba's most exclusive community; in this area, the value of properties has only increased over time. It is minutes to the best beaches and all the



action, and yet offers a quiet and secluded getaway; we are very pleased by the response to our concept."

Fito, with his sister Mayrin and brother Rudy run Cas Bon, which has been constructing homes and building developments for all budgets for nearly twenty years. "Gold Coast Aruba is the jewel in our crown," observes Fito. "We were very excited about this project; the scope and amenities. We talked to countless island visitors to find out what they would really want in a permanent residence on Aruba, and took from there."

Input from frequent vacationers who dreamed of their own home in Aruba will even-

tually be a community of 260 town homes, villas and condominiums with a stunning clubhouse complemented by two additional pools decks, one of which has been open for a year, the other will be ready for the holidays 2010. They expect the clubhouse to be ready for the community with a workout room and spectacular facilities by the end of 2011. It will also house a restaurant and mini-market.

Owners who purchased upon the groundbreaking only a few short years ago, are already enjoying a nearly 50% appreciation on their investment, particularly those taking advantage of the management association's rental service,

There is always a great demand for Aruba and facilities such as those at Gold Coast, making it easy for some owners to earn their mortgage payments or others to see an immediate return on their investment.

The design of the structures is open, airy and spacious, fully deploying the island environment, with the finest quality construction and finishing available. Partnering with two of Aruba's top providers of kitchens and bathrooms enables developers to offer custom options for clients, so buyers can individualize their homes. An elegant and chic standard package is available, or island designers will assist owners in

finishing the décor to their specific tastes.

There are many aspects to purchasing property; not the least is the future value of the investment. To further enhance this, Gold Coast managers have inaugurated a number of in-house services and are now negotiating with Interval International to provide a huge international pool for investors to tap for renters either short or long term. Property exchange for a vacation in another destination will also be available. Gold Coast's own rental services have also proven highly successful in assisting owners in renting their villas; 24-hour security and maintenance services also tip the scales when it is time to make a decision. Aside from all this, housekeeping, babysitting and catering services are also available for community members as well as airport pick-up and drop-off and pre-shopping services so cupboards and refrigerators are stocked upon arrival, which can all be arranged through their home management department.

Visit their website: www.goldcoastaruba.com for more details and availability or call 586-2200 to arrange a personal tour.



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Pope's shrink film stirs controversy in Italy

VATICAN CITY (AFP) – A new film about a panic-prone pope who needs a psychoanalyst has divided Italy's Catholics, with a call for its boycott coming from the pages of an influential bishops' newspaper.

Writing in the *Avvenire* daily, Vatican expert Salvatore Izzo said Italian director Nanni Moretti's film "Habemus Papam" was not respectful towards the head of the world's Roman Catholics and would be "boring" for non-believers.

"We shouldn't touch the pope -- the rock on which Jesus founded his Church," said Izzo, adding that "even priests" had absolved the film after its release on week-end "with the curious justification that Moretti could have been meaner."

"Why should we support financially that which offends our religion?" said Izzo, who writes about the Vatican for Italian news agency AGI.

The film comes just ahead

of Easter, and the beatification ceremony in the Vatican on May 1 that will put late Pope John Paul II on the path to sainthood.

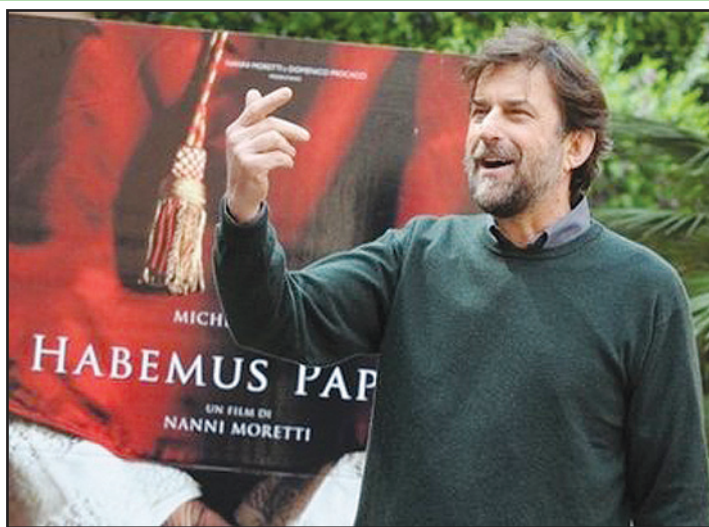
The film starring 85-year-old French actor Michel Piccoli as the man who is reluctant to become pope is being shown in 447 cinemas and grossed 1.3 million euros (1.9 million dollars) over the weekend -- receiving mostly positive reviews.

Jesuit journal *Civiltà Cattolica* praised the film and Vatican Radio said that it contained "no irony, no caricature" of the pope.

Izzo's editorial does not mean the Italian bishops' paper shares his views and some observers are hoping the controversy does not go any further.

"It would be embarrassing.... This film is respectful. It has to be taken as the light comedy that it is," Vatican expert Luigi Accattoli told AFP.

Sandro Magister, another



Italian film maker Nanni Moretti poses during a photocall for his new movie 'Habemus Papam,' in Rome.

Vatican expert, said there are divisions over the film but no official condemnation from Church authorities.

"If there was to be one, it would only help the producer. He would be very happy with a polemic that is completely without foundation," he said.

It is unlikely that any boycott will go far, as previous such initiatives by the Church

have tended to have a boomerang effect.

Heavy criticism from senior Catholic clergy of the "Da Vinci Code" by Ron Howard in 2006 helped turn it into a blockbuster.

Asked about the controversy in an interview for RAI3 television, Moretti said: "There is freedom of expression in my work. I am not

commenting." The director then quipped: "People can boycott it after seeing it!"

Many commentators have hailed a film that touches a sensitive point.

Pope Benedict XVI said his election to the papacy in 2005 felt like "a guillotine" and the late pope John Paul I, who died just 33 days after being elected in 1978, told his advisers he did not want to accept the heavy burden.

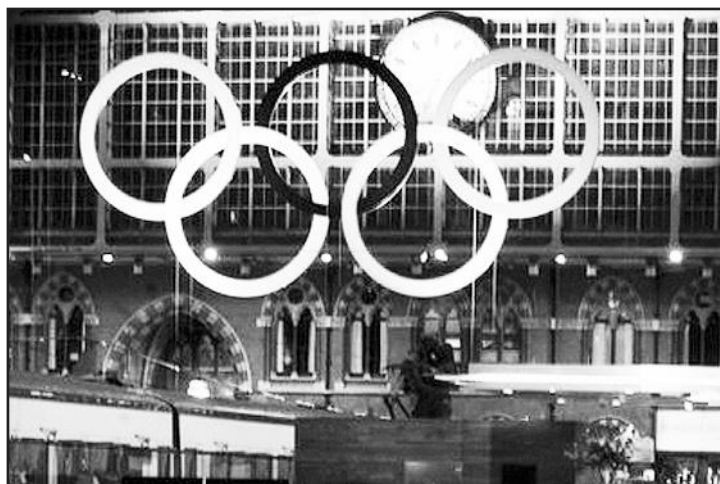
But in the end they both could not say no to a charge that the faithful believe is divinely-inspired -- unlike the pope in the film who resigns his duties.

The head of the Catholic Association of Cinema Workers, Roberto Busti, criticised "Moretti's willingness to introduce psychoanalysis in the Vatican."

He deplored the film for showing "faith cannot remedy natural weaknesses."

"The story does not talk about faith," Busti said.

London Olympics settles 2012 funding row



Giant Olympic rings are unveiled at St Pancras International, in London, last month.

LONDON, England (AFP) – The British Olympic Association and the organisers of the 2012 London Olympics have settled their acrimonious financial dispute which threatened to affect the home team's preparations for the Games.

The settlement agreed late Monday means the BOA has lost its bid to secure a greater share of the profits from the

2012 Games.

The BOA, which is responsible for preparing the athletes, wanted its 20% share based on income from the Olympics without taking into consideration the costs of the Paralympics.

But organisers LOCOG has won its argument that no calculations can be made until both events are completed.

The BOA's position became untenable when the International Olympic Committee ruled in favour of the 2012 organisers.

The BOA had taken its case to the Court of Arbitration for Sport but dropped its legal attempt after the IOC backed the London organisers.

BOA chairman Lord Colin Moynihan and chief executive Andy Hunt were suspended from their positions within LOCOG as the dispute deepened.

After the agreement, Hunt said: "With this matter now resolved, the BOA will be able to keep its attention focused entirely on our preparations to support Team GB at the Games."

LOCOG chief executive Paul Deighton said: "I am glad this issue has been put behind us and we can all get on with delivering Games next year that will make this country proud."

ICC to reconsider Cricket World Cup format changes

LONDON, England (AFP) – The International Cricket Council (ICC) announced on Tuesday that they have been asked by their president, Sharad Pawar, to reconsider proposals to streamline the cricket World Cup.

Under plans announced during an ICC summit in Mumbai earlier this month, participation at the 2015 and 2019 World Cups will be restricted to just the 10 full ICC member teams.

This year's World Cup, won by India, featured 14 teams, and the decision to exclude non Test-playing nations such as Ireland and Kenya from future editions prompted angry protests from the countries set to be left out.

In a press release from the ICC, Pawar said: "I have given this matter further serious thought and will request the Board to consider this topic once more."

"I can understand the

views of the Associates and Affiliates and ICC will seek to deal with this issue in the best way possible."

The ICC's executive board will reconsider the composition of the 2015 tournament during their annual conference in Hong Kong at the end of June.

The restructuring was a strategic decision aimed at making the tournament more compact.

As part of the proposals, the World Twenty20 tournament will be expanded to 16 teams, theoretically ensuring that non Test-playing nations will still benefit from international exposure.

However, the plans prompted an angry reaction from the so-called associate nations, with Cricket Ireland's chief executive Warren Deutrom describing the move as "frankly outrageous".

Ireland pulled off one the shocks of the most recent

tournament when they came from behind to beat England by three wickets in a thrilling group-stage encounter.

Irish Sports Minister Leo Varadkar said such matches proved that smaller nations deserved a place at international cricket's showpiece event.

"This 'closed shop' approach cannot be good for the game, and appears to fly in the face of the sacred values that cricket has espoused for so long -- namely fair play, sportsmanship and camaraderie," he said.

Cricket Kenya chief executive Tom Sears was also critical of the decision.

"I've no desire to be diplomatic," he told The Wisden Cricketer.

"Not to let anyone else in is scandalous. It's all about money, power and votes -- and that's not good for cricket."



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Wimbledon tennis champs get prize money boost



Spain's Rafael Nadal holds the Men's Singles Trophy

LONDON, England (AFP) – Wimbledon's singles champions will benefit from a prize money rise taking their earnings to £1.1 million (\$2.9 million) at the 2011 Championships, organisers announced on Tuesday.

If men's champion Rafael Nadal and women's winner Serena Williams successfully defend the titles they won last year they will bank a cheque that represents a 10 percent rise of £100,000 on the £1 million prize awarded 12 months ago.

The singles runners-up will earn £550,000, the beaten semi-finalists will get £275,000 and even a first-round loser pockets £11,500 for their efforts.

The total prize money for the 125th Championships, which run from June 20 to July 3, is now £14.6 million, a

6.4 percent increase on last year's amount.

Phillip Brook, the new chairman of the All England Club, defended the announcement of the rises on Tuesday and said: "Leading international sports events such as Wimbledon are all about the quality of the players on show."

Although Wimbledon remains one of the sport's biggest cash cows, the tournament's bosses are concerned that other tennis events in the United Kingdom could be hit by withdrawals from star players concerned by high taxation.

Athletes who compete in individual sports like tennis and golf are currently taxed a percentage of their endorsement for each day they spend in the UK, whereas team sports like football are exempt from those rules.



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MLB Standings

American League

East	W	L	Pct	GB
NY YANKEES	9	5	.643	--
TORONTO	7	9	.438	3.0
TAMPA	7	9	.438	3.0
BALTIMORE	6	9	.400	3.5
BOSTON	5	10	.333	4.5

Central

CLEVELAND	12	4	.733	--
KANSAS CITY	10	6	.667	2.0
DETROIT	8	9	.467	4.5
CHICAGO	7	9	.438	5.0
MINNESOTA	6	10	.333	6.0

West

TEXAS	11	5	.688	--
LA ANGELES	10	6	.625	1.0
OAKLAND	8	8	.500	3.0
SEATTLE	5	12	.294	6.5

National League

East	W	L	Pct	GB
PHILADELPHIA	10	5	.667	--
FLORIDA	8	6	.571	1.5
WASHINGTON	8	7	.533	2.0
ATLANTA	7	10	.412	4.0
NY METS	5	11	.312	5.5

Central

CINCINNATI	9	7	.562	--
CHICAGO	8	8	.500	1.0
MILWAUKEE	8	8	.500	1.0
ST. LOUIS	8	8	.500	1.0
PITTSBURG	8	8	.500	1.0
HOUSTON	5	11	.312	4.0

West

COLORADO	12	4	.750	--
SAN FRANCISCO	9	7	.562	3.0
LA DODGERS	8	9	.471	4.5
SAN DIEGO	7	9	.438	5.0
ARIZONA	6	8	.429	5.0

Reds' pitcher Leake arrested for shoplifting

CINCINNATI, Ohio (AFP) — Cincinnati's Mike Leake has been arrested on a shoplifting charge, just two days after pitching the Reds to a 11-2 victory over the Pittsburgh Pirates.

Leake was charged with misdemeanor shoplifting after employees of Macy's, Inc. accused him of trying to steal six shirts worth \$60 from a downtown department store on Monday.

Police said security cameras captured Leake in the store and

that he allegedly removed price tags from a half dozen American Rag t-shirts before trying to leave without paying.

Leake, who makes \$425,000 a year with the Reds, got the victory in an 11-2 win over Pittsburgh on Saturday at the Great American Ball Park.

The Major League Baseball team issued a statement Monday saying they would look into it. If convicted Leake, of San Diego, could be facing a maximum 180 days

Top seeds Heat, Bulls grab 2-0 East series leads



Dwyane Wade #3 of the Miami Heat drives around Evan Turner #12 of the Philadelphia 76ers

MIAMI (AFP) — The Miami Heat and Chicago Bulls, the top two seeds in the Eastern Conference, posted victories to seize 2-0 leads in their first-round NBA playoff series.

The No. 1 seeded Bulls on Monday held on to beat eighth seeded Indiana 96-90 while the second seeded Heat routed Philadelphia 94-73 in their best-of-seven series.

LeBron James scored 29 points and Chris Bosh had his second straight double-double with 21 points and 11 rebounds as Miami easily beat Philadelphia.

James also had seven rebounds and six assists for the

Heat who never trailed in game two.

Dwyane Wade, who missed practice with a headache Sunday, also scored 14 points.

"He controlled the game," James said of Wade. "He had two people on him so he just got off the ball and let other guys make things happen and it's good to have him on the court."

Thaddeus Young scored 18 points and Evan Turner added 15 for the 76ers, who shot just 26 percent in a dismal first half.

Mike Bibby's three pointer gave Miami a 49-31 lead at

halftime, with Bosh, James and Wade all scoring at least 10 points.

Game three is Thursday in Philadelphia.

Derrick Rose once again carried the Bulls on his back finishing with 36 points, eight rebounds and six assists in the hard-fought won Monday.

Chicago's Kyle Korver nailed a key three pointer with 64 seconds left in the fourth after Indiana cut the lead to two points. Korver also drained the go-ahead three during the Bulls 16-1 closing run in a game one victory.

Carlos Boozer finished with 17 points and 16 rebounds for the Bulls, who clinched the win at the free throw line.

Game three is Thursday at Indianapolis.

Tonight games:

Denver vs. Oklahoma
 (Thunder leads 1-0)
New Orleans vs. LA Lakers
 (Hornets lead 1-0)
Memphis vs. San Antonio
 (Grizzlies lead 1-0)

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NHL inks rich 10-year US TV rights deal

NEW YORK (AFP) – The National Hockey League announced a new record-setting 10-year US television rights deal to remain with telecasters NBC and Versus, which have owned the package for the past six years.

The deal, reportedly worth \$2 billion, is the richest in league history, coming after a major boost in US TV ratings and drawing the prior high of \$120 million a season paid to the NHL by ESPN from 1999 through 2004.

"This is the most significant US media rights partnership in the league's history,"


NHL commissioner Gary Bettman said.

NBC and the NHL have had a revenue sharing plan in which they divided profits from telecasts on advertising after production expenses while Versus paid \$77 million a year for NHL cable television rights.

US television ratings for the NHL have jumped about 84 percent in the past four years, with last January's Winter Classic between Washington and Pittsburgh on NBC drawing the biggest NHL regular-season ratings since 1975.

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Boston officials to seek world record for Mutai

BOSTON (AFP) - Boston Marathon officials declared Tuesday that they will ask the IAAF to have Kenyan Geoffrey Mutai's fastest-ever marathon effort run Monday sanctioned as a world record.

The move comes even though IAAF rules prevent any Boston Marathon effort

being declared a world record because the course is technically downhill and offers the chance of tailwinds providing a boost to runners.

Mutai's epic run of two hours, three minutes and two seconds would, if sanctioned, shatter the world record of 2:03:59 by Haile Gebrse-

lassie of Ethiopia in 2008 at Berlin.

Officials of the 115-year-old race claim their course is not faster or easier than any other marathon layout, containing such famed climbs as "Heartbreak Hill", just because of the overall drop from start to finish.



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